

In re Patent Application of:

KAMAT

Serial No. 10/780,423

Filing Date: 02/17/04

REMARKS

Claims 1-40 remain in this application. Claims 1, 2, 3, 14, 16, 17, 28, 30 and 40 have been amended.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the detailed study of the application and prior art. At the outset, Applicant submits this Amendment with all independent claims 1, 14, 28 and 40 amended to stress the patentable features of the present claimed invention and recited in a better format. The claims now stress the distinguishing features of the invention as compared to the prior art cited by the Examiner, i.e., U.S. patent application publication no. 2002/0087704 to Chesnais et al. (hereinafter "Chesnais").

It should be understood that the system and method of the present invention notifies a user of an event using an alert engine module that receives an alert, for example, an email message as a Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP) message, which is indicative of a notification for the event, i.e., a notification of the stored message on a server, such as an e-mail message, a telephone message stored on a recording device or server, stock quotes or other received messages. This alert is indicative of a notification for the event corresponding to a stored message on the server. This alert is then transformed by the alert engine module and delivered to a target address in a communications format that is preferred by a user.

As noted throughout the description and claimed independent claims, the alert can be transformed based on a header and/or format of a target address, for example, a mobile device or type of mobile device. The communication format can be a Short Messaging Service (SMS) message as a

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default, or a Wireless Application Protocol (WAP) message, email message or Over-The-Air (OTA) message, including a Pocket PC message.

The present claimed invention as now set forth in this Amendment is much different in structure and function from the system of Chesnais, which takes any number of different messages, and transforms each message into a uniform media format data file. This stored data is again transformed into a second format that can be received by a user on the particular type of device used by the user. Thus, entire messages are received on a mobile telephone or other device capable of receiving the messages, depending on what the user prefers. A communications channel can be chosen based on the type of device. The entire message is formatted in the specific type of protocol desired by a user.

This teaching in Chesnais is clearly set forth in the specification, and more particularly, paragraphs 12-14 and paragraphs 91-92.

Specific portions of these paragraphs are clear and recite:

[0012] In an exemplary embodiment, a method for routing a message to a communications device, may include receiving a message via a communications channel, converting the message into a uniform media format, identifying a communications device(s) to receive the message and/or a communications channel(s) for delivering the message, converting the uniform media formatted message for the communications protocol and then forwarding the message formatted for the communications protocol(s) to the communications device(s) via the

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communications channel(s). The uniform media format may be implemented in the extensible markup language.

* * *

[0091] The systems and methods presented herein are capable of receiving messages in a variety of forms, such as emails using SMTP or through an API, and delivering (i.e., sending) them in many different message formats (communications protocols) to a variety of communications devices. The "sent" outbound message types can include email, SMS, WAP alert, pager message, instant message, SIP/SIMPLE message, and alert to visual and audible notification devices, amongst others. The following is a brief description of how messages which are intend for a particular recipient may be directed to a server which hosts a messaging systems such as the one illustrated in FIG. 3. While this description will be limited to email messages only, persons skilled in the art will readily appreciate how these teachings can be extended to the other communication channels discussed herein.

It is clear from these quoted sections and the other teachings in Chesnais that Chesnais is directed to routing messages using a specific communications channel and converting the messages into a Uniform Media Format. A converted Uniform Media Formatted message is again transformed into a communications protocol that can be forwarded along a communications channel to a user communications device. It is clear that there are two conversions of the entire email message in Chesnais. A first conversion converts the entire email message into a Uniform Media Formatted message. A

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second conversion formats the Uniform Media Formatted message into a communications protocol that can be received by a user device, such as a telephone. Because entire messages are transformed, the system could backlog or slow down and load balancing is required, as clearly shown by the preferred load balancer 410 in FIG. 4.

The present claimed invention is opposite because it does not first transform the entire email message as in Chesnais, but only receives an alert indicative of a notification for an event corresponding to a stored message on a server. This alert is delivered to a targeted address in a communications format that is preferred by a user, whether it is a Short Messaging Service, Over-The-Air (OTA) message or Pocket PC message, as examples. This alert notification could be indicative of a very long telephone message stored on a server, such as on an answering machine, or it could be indicative of a simple stock quote notification that a certain stock has risen or fallen.

It should be understood that the present claimed invention is much different and directed to receiving an alert indicative of a notification for an alert corresponding to the stored message on a server, and delivering this alert to the target address in a communications format preferred by a user. It is important to distinguish that the alert only is delivered because the target address could be a very small receiver that does not hold much data or could be a personal computer or a telephone. For example, a telephone message may not be received and heard on certain mobile devices, for example, small pagers, but the alert would indicate to a user that a telephone message is stored on a server, such as on an

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answering machine, and must be accessed. Alternatively, the device at the targeted address could access the stored message after receiving the alert.

Applicant contends that the present case is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests that the Examiner issue a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due. If the Examiner has any questions or suggestions for placing this case in condition for allowance, the undersigned attorney would appreciate a telephone call.

Respectfully submitted,



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